

IV. AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1.- 5. (Canceled)

6. (Previously Presented) A dental articulator comprising:

a lower frame (23) provided with a lower jaw model supporting portion (21) in its upper surface, wherein a lower jaw model (20) is detachably mounted on said supporting portion (21) through one of height-control means (16, 24, 40, 43);

a stand portion (30) disposed upright in a rear portion of said lower frame (23);

an upper frame (13) capable of performing its opening and closing motion relative to said stand portion (30), wherein said upper frame (13) is provided with an upper jaw model supporting portion (11) in its lower surface, wherein an upper jaw model (10) is detachably mounted on said supporting portion (11) through another one of said height-control means (16, 24, 40, 43);

wherein said height-control means (16, 24, 40, 43) enables said jaw model (10, 20) to be displaced vertically without any inclination relative to said frame (13, 23) and, wherein said height-control means (16, 24, 40, 43) is constructed of a plurality of circular planar stages (16, 24) which differ from each other in thickness and detachably mounted on said supporting portion (11, 21) to make it possible to displace said jaw model (10, 20) vertically without any inclination relative to said frame (13, 23) when a first one of said circular planar stages (24) is exchanged for another one different from said first one in thickness.

7. (Previously Presented) A dental articulator comprising:

a lower frame (23) provided with a lower jaw model supporting portion (21) in its upper surface, wherein a lower jaw model (20) is detachably mounted on said supporting portion (21) through one of height-control means (16, 24, 40, 43);

a stand portion (30) disposed upright in a rear portion of said lower frame (23);

an upper frame (13) capable of performing its opening and closing motion relative to said stand portion (30), wherein said upper frame (13) is provided with

an upper jaw model supporting portion (11) in its lower surface, wherein an upper jaw model (10) is detachably mounted on said supporting portion (11) through another one of said height-control means (16, 24, 40, 43);

wherein said height-control means (16, 24, 40, 43) enables said jaw model (10, 20) to be displaced vertically without any inclination relative to said frame (13, 23) and, wherein said height-control means (16, 24, 40, 43) is constructed of a plurality of circular plates (40) each disposed between said supporting portion (11, 21) and said circular planar stage (24) and differs from each other in thickness to make it possible to displace said jaw model (10, 20) vertically without any inclination relative to said frame (13, 23) when a first one of said circular plates (40) is exchanged for another one having a thickness different from that of said first one.

8. (Previously Presented) A dental articulator comprising:

a lower frame (23) provided with a lower jaw model supporting portion (21) in its upper surface, wherein a lower jaw model (20) is detachably mounted on said supporting portion (21) through one of height-control means (16, 24, 40, 43);

a stand portion (30) disposed upright in a rear portion of said lower frame (23);

an upper frame (13) capable of performing its opening and closing motion relative to said stand portion (30), wherein said upper frame (13) is provided with an upper jaw model supporting portion (11) in its lower surface, wherein an upper jaw model (10) is detachably mounted on said supporting portion (11) through another one of said height-control means (16, 24, 40, 43);

wherein said height-control means (16, 24, 40, 43) enables said jaw model (10, 20) to be displaced vertically without any inclination relative to said frame (13, 23) and, wherein said height-control means (16, 24, 40, 43) is constructed of a calibrated cylinder (43), said calibrated cylinder (43) passing through a through-hole of at least one of said supporting portions (11, 21) to have its front end portion abut on a circular planar stage (16, 24) so that said circular planar stage (16, 24) is vertically displaced without any inclination relative to said at least one

of said supporting portions (11, 21) when said calibrated cylinder (43) is vertically slidably moved in said through-hole of said at least one of said supporting portions (11, 21).

9. (Currently Amended) A dental articulator comprising:

a lower frame (23) provided with a lower jaw model supporting portion (21) in its upper surface, wherein a lower jaw model (20) is detachably mounted on said supporting portion (21) through one of height-control means (16, 24, 40, 43);
a stand portion (30) disposed upright in a rear portion of said lower frame (23);

an upper frame (13) capable of performing its opening and closing motion relative to said stand portion (30), wherein said upper frame (13) is provided with an upper jaw model supporting portion (11) in its lower surface, wherein an upper jaw model (10) is detachably mounted on said supporting portion (11) through another one of said height-control means (16, 24, 40, 43);

wherein said height-control means (16, 24, 40, 43) is constructed of a calibrated cylinder (43) and enables said jaw model (10, 20) to be displaced vertically without any inclination relative to said frame (13, 23),

wherein said calibrated cylinder (43) is provided with a vertical scale in its outer peripheral surface and a central threaded hole (44) in its central portion, which threaded hole (44) is threadably engaged with a treaded portion of a stop screw (17, 25), which threaded portion of said stop screw (17, 25) has its front end portion threadably engaged with a threaded hole (16a, 24a) of said circular planar stage (16, 24), wherein a lateral screw member (45) is threadably engaged with a threaded through-hole of a side portion of said frame (13, 23) to have its front end portion abut against a side peripheral portion of said calibrated cylinder (43) to fix the same (43) to said frame (13, 23) after said calibrated cylinder (43) is displaced by a desired amount relative to said frame (13, 23).

10. (Canceled)

11. (Canceled)